## EASEMENT ON MAIN BUILDING ONLY

Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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### The Gatehouse:

The Gatehouse of the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital in Towson, Maryland, was designed by Thomas and James M. Dixon of Baltimore in 1860 and constructed by John L. Gittier, builder. It is a symmetrical two-story structure in the Tudor Revival Style. Constructed of field stone, it has a large central open archway through which vehicles pass. Above the arch is a steep gable roof with deep decorated bargeboards sheltering three lancet windows that light the second floor space. Flanking the central section are two one-and-a-half story wings, one bay wide, with exaggerated dormer windows, decorated bargeboards, and one lancet window. The rear elevation of these wings extend past the central section making a U-shaped structure in plan. These rear wings do not have dormers but instead have decorated cross gables. Each wing has one interior chimney. The Gatehouse plan provides for two separate cottage units, one on either side of the archway.

# Western Division ("A" Building) Eastern Division ("B" Building):

The two immense brick buildings that compose the Calvert Vaux design for the hospital were built to accomodate men in one and women in the other. These three-and-one-half story structures each with a six story tower are virtual mirror images of each other. They are 360 feet long and were originally separated by a 100 foot wide courtyard. In 1971 this space was filled in by the New Central Building which, though modern in design, is in harmony with the Vaux work.

Each of the Vaux buildings are roughly T-shaped in plan, with many cross gables, oriel windows, towers, and setbacks. A hybrid of the English Norman and the Italianate styles, the buildings have very spare decoration and derive their impressive dignity and impact from the advancing and receding planes of the walls and the complex juxtaposition of the roof forms. The interior arrangement of the two buildings represents a major step forward in the planning of mental institutions.

"In the old almshouses the sick-poor, orphaned-poor, aged-poor, mentally disturbed, retarded, and idiots had been housed together; the new system fostered the beginnings of psychiatric classification. The most disturbed patients were placed in the wing farthest removed from the offices, with the less disturbed patients next, and convalescent individuals closest to the reception rooms and library. The second floor duplicated the first, and the third floor and the

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
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The Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital in Towson, Maryland, has been for over a century one of the leading private hospitals in the country devoted to the care and treatment of the mentally ill.

The architecture of the two principal buildings of the hospital, built from 1862 to 1891 and known originally as the Western Division and the Eastern Division, were designed by the nationally prominent architect CalVert Vaux who also designed most of the buildings in Central Park, New York. These two buildings are virtual mirror images of each other and together with their twin towers present an impressive aspect over 800 feet long. The dramatic appearance of these Norman Revival buildings is, however, secondary to their functional design which marked a milestone in psychiatric planning by separating patients according to the nature of their illness, and attempting to create for each category a pleasant, self-contained, non-institutional environment.

The Gatehouse for the hospital was designed in 1860 by Baltimore architects Thomas and James M. Dixon. This quaint Tudor Revival double cottage, located at the Charles Street Avenue entrance to the hospital, was the first building to be built and has become familiar to generations of passersby. It is used by the hospital as their symbol and as a result they requested National Historic Landmark evaluation of it alone. However, familiarity cannot be substituted for architectural excellence and the Gatehouse, for all its charm, is in no way exceptional.

### History

(abridged in part from the 1966-1967 Annual Report of the Hospital)

The Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital, Towson, Maryland, had its beginning in a bequest made by Moses Sheppard (1775-1857), a Baltimore Quaker merchant, for the establishment of an experimental institution

--continued on Form 10-300a--

9.	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFE	. (CES	
	Forbush, Rliss. The	Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital.	Philadelphia:

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UNIT. STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Number al! entries) Shepperd and Enoch Pratt Hospital: First Floor Plan "A" Building SHEPPARD ASYLUM BALTIMORE, MP

First Floor Plan: Western Division, 1891.

## JNI STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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### 7. DESCRIPTION (1)

Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital and Gate House

smaller fourth floor were reserved for nurses and the other employees. In each division there were approximately fifty rooms on the top two floors. The ground floor of each section contained seventy-five rooms. Patients' bedrooms averaged ten by fourteen feet, the parlors eithteen by thirty-two feet, and the sun rooms eight by twenty feet. Corridors were ten feet wide."

#### SIGNIFICANCE

"to carry forward and improve the ameliorated system of treatment of the insane, irrespective of expense." In 1853 a Charter was enacted by the Maryland Legislature to establish the Sheppard Asylum. In 1857, at his death, Moses Sheppard left \$571,440 to the Sheppard Asylum. In 1860, the first building, the Gatehouse, was erected at the entrance on Charles Street Avenue. As funds became available from the estate, the hospital was built over the next thirty-three years. On November 25, 1891, the "A" and "B" Buildings were opened to receive patients. In 1896 a bequest was made to the hospital by Enoch Pratt. He requested that his name be used and by an Act of the Maryland Legislature the Sheppard Asylum became the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital.

The architectural history of the Gatehouse and of the hospital buildings is somewhat complex. In 1858, the Trustees of the Sheppard bequest organized an architectural competition for the hospital design. "A Baltimore firm, Thomas and James M. Dixon won the \$350 prize for the best of twenty-one designs submitted for the main building. Because of his recent services as Superintendent of the newly constructed Bloomingdale Hospital at White Plains, New York, third place winner, Dr. D. Tilden Brown was chosen as chief consultant. Calvert Vaux of New York City was named associate architect. In general the plans, as developed, followed closely the design suggested by Dr. Robert Kirkbridge of the Pennsylvania Hospital, which were published in the Journal of Insanity and had been studied by the founder."<sup>2</sup>

In May 1860, the Gatehouse was constructed. This first building was the work of the Thomas and James M. Dixon firm in Baltimore. Original drawings exist for a preliminary design for a Gate Lodge suggestive of the actual building constructed but less ambitious.

<sup>1.</sup> Bliss Forbush, The Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital, 1853-1970 (Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott Co., 1971) pp. 24-25.

<sup>2.</sup> Ibid, pp. 21-22.

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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### 8. SIGNIFICANCE

Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital and Gate House

The Trustees adopted plans for the main hospital buildings in 1860. They called for two buildings 360 feet long, mirror images of each other separated by a space of 100 feet. These buildings, called the Western Division ("A" Building) and the Eastern Division ("B" Building), were respectively for male and female patients. Construction started in 1862 and progressed in fits and starts over the next 29 years. "A" Building was under roof in 1871, "B" Building was completed in 1891.

The original drawings for "A" Building showing floor plans and sections are signed "Calvert Vaux, Architect, 110 Broadway, N.Y."

They are much more highly developed than those for the Gatehouse and suggest that the Dixon firm left the final design and working drawings entirely to Vaux. An onsite evaluation of the quality of the Vaux hospital buildings compared to the Dixon Gatehouse tends to bear this observation out.

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL . \_GISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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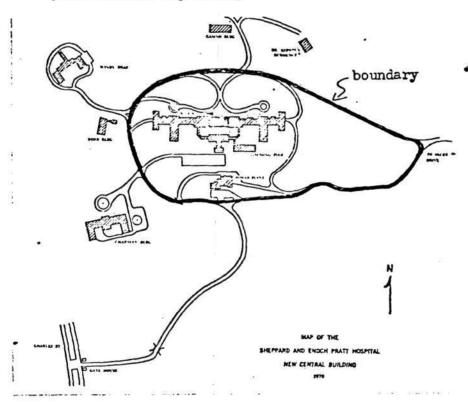
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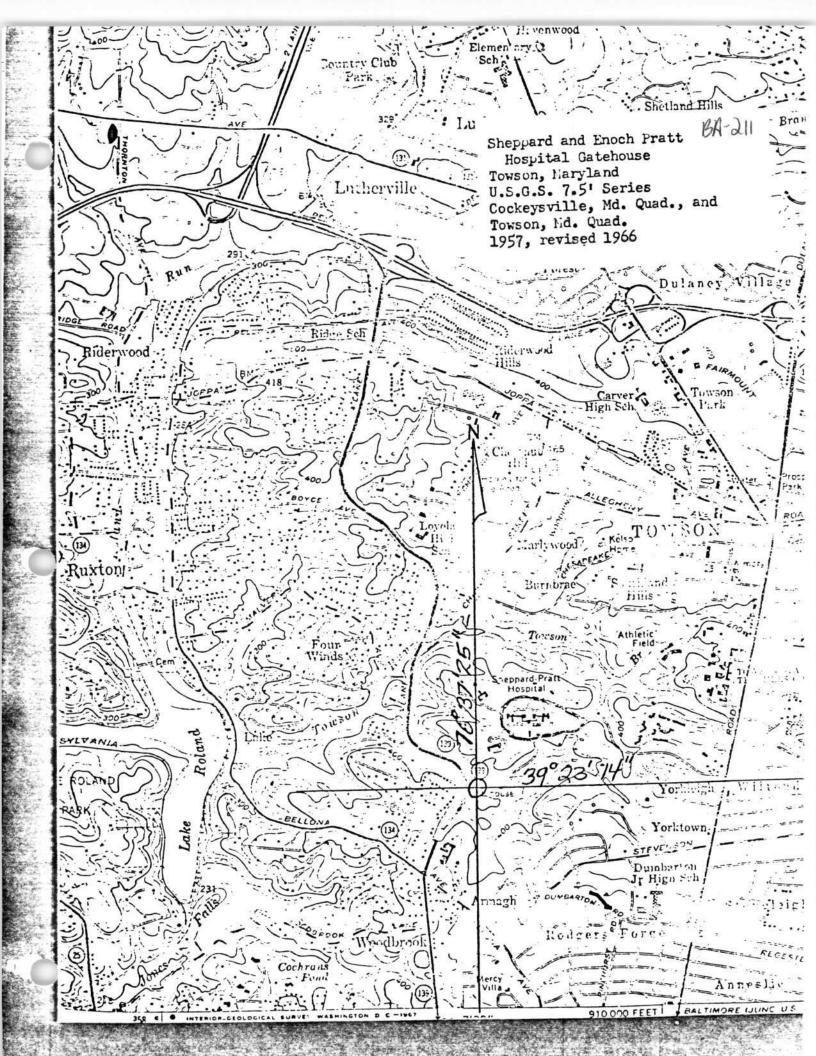
### Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital property description:

Bounded by hospital roads forming a rough oval around "A" and "B" Buildings and the power plant. On the south following a hospital road which is south of the power plant and north of the Chapman Building, on the west following the hospital road between the Ford Building and "A" Building, on the north following a hospital road between the "A" and "B" Building complex and the Casino Building and Dr. Gibson's residence, to an exit to Osler Drive.

(see detailed Map below)



From Bliss Forbush, The Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital, 1353-1970 (Philadelphia, J.B. Lippincott Co., 1971) P. 239.



September 8, 2000

Ms. Kimberly R. Abe
Baltimore County, Landmarks Preservation Commission
County Courts Building
401 Bosley Avenue, Suite 406
Towson, Maryland 21204

Re: Sheppard Pratt Hospital property (BA-211)

### Dear Kim:

As you requested, I have reviewed the documentation related to Sheppard Pratt Hospital in Towson, including the 1971 National Register Nomination form for the Main Hospital and Gatehouse. I have concluded that the entire property should be properly documented and fully assessed for its significance as a cohesive historic district. The main hospital building has already been recognized as a National Historic Landmark for its distinctive architectural presentation, but not for its contribution to the history of mental illness. In this context, the property as a whole is potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Events and Criterion C: Design/Construction, and for nomination as a National Historic Landmark under Criteria 1 and 4 within the Social and Humanitarian Movements theme. I have conducted my own assessment of the property's integrity and eligibility for listing, and outlined my findings below for your review.

The Sheppard Pratt Hospital property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, specifically the treatment of the mentally ill. The history of this property dates from the establishment of Sheppard Asylum, an experimental institution created under a charter enacted by the Maryland Legislature in 1853. In 1857, Moses Sheppard, a member of the Religious Society of Friends who had an interest in social causes, bequeathed \$571,440 to the asylum he had been instrumental in establishing. Construction of the hospital and its associated buildings on the 341-acre site began in 1860, opening to patients on November 25, 1891. Enoch Pratt provided additional financial assistance for the care of the patients and construction of associated buildings in 1896. A stipulation of the gift was that the property be renamed the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital.

The Sheppard Pratt Hospital property is sufficiently intact to convey its significance under Criterion A of the National Register and the Social and Humanitarian Movements theme (Aiding the Handicapped and Mental Health Care subtheme) of the National Historic Landmarks program. This institution was instrumental in the treatment of the mentally ill, establishing psychiatric planning that separated patients according to the nature of their illnesses. Moses

Sheppard stated that "the asylum should combine every feature that science and experience might indicate as requisite or desirable to minister to the greatest possible advantage of the patients." With this in mind, the founders, architects, and hospital staff/planners created a non-institutional environment that provided courteous treatment and comfort to all patients. The setting of the property, building styles, and medical care was guided by the grim conditions of mental patients elsewhere. No patient was to be housed underground and all were to have privacy with ample sunlight and fresh air. Patients were given two rooms, one for the patient and the other for a companion who assisted in their care. Medical staff was initially required to live on the property, thus creating a sense of community among the staff and patients. This philosophy culminated in the 1901 construction of the Casino, a high style building within a convenient distance from the main hospital where patients participated in physical activities. The many recreations held at the Casino included bowling, billiards, light gymnastics, outdoor games, and crafts, activities that led to the establishment of occupational therapy. In the 1920s, prompted by a change in Maryland law, the hospital was the only hospital in the state equipped to teach accredited nurses in an educational setting.

Architecturally, the property illustrates distinctive characteristics of a particular architectural style and period, specifically the Queen Anne-Eastlake style in the mid- to late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the Colonial Revival style of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Sheppard Pratt Hospital as a whole is representative of an important phase of architectural development, illustrating the popularity of architect-designed styles that present a picturesque mode within a natural landscape. Furthermore, the integrity of the buildings and landscaping plan, although altered by the evolution of the hospital, is sufficiently intact to convey its significance under Criterion C.

The first building constructed on the property was the Charles Avenue gatehouse (1860) which was designed by the Baltimore firm of Thomas and James M. Dixon. The nationally prominent architect Calvert Vaux designed the original sections of the hospital in 1860. Construction of the two identical brick buildings began in 1861, and concluded with the opening of the hospital in 1891. Although not credited as the work of Vaux or the Dixons, the 1895 Powerhouse with laundry and employee's quarters is stylistically consistent with the main hospital and gatehouse. This high style complex was constructed of stone and brick with intricate cross gable roofs, clipped gable ends, overhanging eaves ornamented with exposed brackets, and stone hood moldings and lug sills. Like the towers of the main hospital, the power plant rises five stories over the property with corbeled gables, rows of window openings joined by intersecting gables, and ornate recessed panels.

In 1896, Enoch Pratt pledged over \$1,000,000 to assist the hospital in the care of the mentally ill and construction of additional buildings. This led to the erection of the wood frame Casino with its high style Queen Anne-Shingle style detailing designed by the firm of Baldwin and Pennington. Framed by a wrap-around porch, the building has an imposing hipped roof, front gable dormer, corbeled interior brick chimney, and expansive entry and window openings. The 1904 superintendent's house, known as Windy Brea, presented the transition of the Queen-Anne-Shingle style and the Colonial Revival style. The no longer extant building stood two-and-a-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "The Building of a Sanctuary," Historic Towson, Inc., updated report of the documentary film, p. 6.

half-stories high and was clad with square-butt wood shingles. A one bay wide portico supported by paired Tuscan columns and a wide entablature augmented the imposing entry. The wide window openings held Queen Anne style multi-light sashes framed with square-edged casings. The hipped roof was pierced by front gable dormers with ornate cornices, corbeled brick chimneys, and topped by a balustraded walk. The final building from this phase of physical development was the Activities Building, a service structure erected in 1906 between the two main part of the hospital. This two-story brick structure was symmetrically fenestrated with groups of window openings and projecting front gable bays. Like the powerhouse, this high style building was ornamented with a cross gable roof, overhanging eaves ornamented with exposed brackets, and ornate stone lintel moldings and lug sills.

Other architecturally significant historic resources marking the landscape of the Sheppard Pratt Hospital property include:

- Overlook House: the 1929 Tudor Revival style home of the president;
- Norris Cottage: a circa 1895 Queen Anne style stone dwelling erected by the family of a patient;
- Fordham Cottage (now known as the Poe Cottage): a 1921 Colonial Revival style bungalow erected by the family of a patient;
- North Chapman: the Colonial Revival high style brick structure construction in 1929 to the designs of William G. Nolting as a reception and administration building;
- · Gibson Wings: the two 1931 wings erected on the now razed Windy Brea; and
- the circa 1924 Queen Anne style barn and two silos.

The natural landscape plan of the property with overlooking vistas, winding roads, tree-lined paths, and gardens should be studied to determine its original 1860 layout. The setting of the property was intricate to Sheppard's image and the hospital's philosophy. Additionally, Calvert Vaux of New York was the architect of a number of buildings in Central Park, New York. Vaux's collaborations with Andrew Jackson Downing and Frederick Law Olmsted, among others, is evident in his numerous and varied contributions to domestic, institutional, and landscape architecture. Although buildings have been added to the property since its establishment in 1860, the picturesque setting as it was originally intended has not been disturbed and is exceptionally significant.

With regard to integrity, the Sheppard Pratt Hospital property retains the essential physical features that enable it to convey its historic character. As defined by the National Register of Historic Places in "Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation," the seven aspects of integrity are addressed as they pertain to the property.

Location is defined as the place where the historic property was constructed. Complemented
by setting, the location of Sheppard Pratt Hospital is important to understanding why the
hospital was constructed here. First, the hospital and its associated buildings remain in their
original location, they have not been moved. Secondly, the hospital was deliberately
constructed in this rural location north of Baltimore City in an effort to more effectively treat

the patients and portray a picturesque setting in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. *Therefore, Sheppard Pratt Hospital retains integrity of location.* 

- 2. Design is defined as the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. The design of the property and its resources was the result of conscious decisions made during the establishment of the hospital and the planning of the property. The intentional design of the property, including both interior and exterior spaces, was made in an effort to present the patients with a sense of community and a more collegiate learning environment. This was accomplished through the siting of the buildings on an undulated landscape outside Baltimore City, the picturesque interpretation of that landscape, the high style buildings presented by the various architects and designers, and the wood frame and brick construction of the structures and their fashionable ornamentation. Additionally, the property reflects the proportion, scale, and space planning of rural picturesque designs from mid- to late 19<sup>th</sup> century, and its evolution into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The property has been modified by the construction of new hospital buildings, however, this alteration is viewed as evolutionary in the history of the institution and in the discipline of the mental health profession. Therefore, Sheppard Pratt Hospital retains sufficient integrity of design.
- 3. **Setting** is the physical environment or character of a historic property, including where it is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and open space. The setting of Sheppard Pratt Hospital, as note above, was intentionally selected for its ability to reflect the rural picturesque mode. Thus, the historic physical features of this area are significant to the architectural interpretation of the building, particularly its rural environment and siting outside the urban setting of Baltimore City. The picturesque setting worked in tandem with the non-institutional doctrine of the hospital. The property was divided into three areas patients, agricultural and service that were designed and operated cohesively. The patient areas were designed with day-to-day activities in mind, using ornamental trees and shrubs on hills and open grounds, winding paths for walks, and natural boundaries rather than fences. The agricultural areas included a barn, silos, fruits trees, and vegetable gardens, producing food for the patients and employees. The service area included buildings that were part of the landscape and architectural plans, rather than separate entities hidden from view.

The setting of the property was compromised by the construction and subsequent expansions of the Greater Baltimore Medical Center (GBMC) to the immediate west and Towson State College wrapping around the property on the east from north to south. However, these modern buildings are obscured from view by the undulating landscape of the hospital with its mature trees and winding interior roads. Therefore, within the confines of the hospital property, enough of the essential physical features of the setting are visible and convey their historic context.

4. **Materials** are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. Revealing the preference of the hospital trustees and architects, the materials and technologies used in the construction of the buildings at Sheppard Pratt Hospital are largely

original. This includes the brick and stone foundations and cladding, the ornate window surrounds, the intersecting gables of slate tiles with overhanging eaves, the exposed rafters, denticulated cornices, wrap-around and inset porches, projecting bays with tympanum embellishments, and pedimented two-story wood porticoes with molded entablature. Modern materials have been introduced, including the replacement of wood sash with metal sash. These materials, however, are viewed as reversible. Thus, the Sheppard Pratt Hospital retains sufficient integrity of materials.

- 5. Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. All of the buildings on the property appear to be the work of trained architects, landscape architects, and artisans, although documentation has not yet been located to support this. Primary research has been gathered that records that several of the buildings were designed by trained architects. This includes the main hospital, which was the work of the nationally renowned architect Calvert Vaux. The landscape planning of the property is indicative of Vaux's work, suggesting that he participated in the layout or it was the result of his influence. Vaux's drawings and papers, however, have been lost. The gatehouse was the design of the Baltimore firm of Thomas and James M. Dixon. Prominent Baltimore architect William G. Nolting designed North Chapman, and the Casino was the work of the Baltimore firm Baldwin and Pennington. Thus, Sheppard Pratt Hospital illustrates the work of trained architects and artisans, and therefore, has integrity of workmanship.
- 6. Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. This is the result of the presence of the physical features outlined above that, taken together, conveys Sheppard Pratt Hospital's historic character. The property retains its original design, materials, workmanship, setting, and location and therefore relates the feeling Moses Sheppard, Calvert Vaux, and the many others involved in the planning and operation of the hospital had envisioned. The property does not feel like a hospital, or an institution. Rather, it feels like an educational campus, with a sense of community. Therefore, Sheppard Pratt Hospital has integrity of feeling.
- 7. Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. The property maintains a direct association with Moses Sheppard and Enoch Pratt, both of whom are important in the historic context of the hospital, Baltimore County, and Maryland. Furthermore, there continues to be an association with mental health activities, training, and advances that have occurred at this property since its founding in 1860. Thus, Sheppard Pratt Hospital presents integrity of association.

Comparatively, Sheppard Pratt Hospital possesses the characteristics required to represent the context in which it was originally established, and has evolved. Representative of Queen Anne-Eastlake, Colonial Revival, and Tudor Revival architecture in a picturesque rural setting, the property was the only institution of its kind when established. The advances and treatments practiced were progressive for the 19<sup>th</sup> century, thus allowing the hospital to lead in the field of mental health and occupational therapy.

Thus, the defined essential physical features significant to Sheppard Pratt Hospital include the picturesque setting, the main hospital and all of the associated buildings, and the stylistic elements presented in the design and workmanship of the buildings and landscape. As noted above, these features are intact and visible enough to convey their significance. Therefore, I have determined that the Sheppard Pratt Hospital property, in its entirety, is sufficiently intact to relay its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history as defined under Criterion A of the National Register. Within a local, regional, and national context, the Sheppard Pratt Hospital is a rare example of a property type, and embodies ample integrity to reflect its design and construction as defined under Criterion C. Furthermore, the property has national significance for its association with the advancements in mental health treatment and occupational therapy. Retaining the integrity to reflect that context, the Sheppard Pratt Hospital is potentially eligible as a district for nomination as a National Historic Landmark under Criterion 1 (Events) and Criterion 4 (Architecture and Landscape Planning). The associated theme is the Social and Humanitarian Movements, with Aiding the Handicapped and Mental Health Care as the subtheme.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require additional documentation or clarifications. I would be happy to assist you if I am able.

Sincerely,

Laura V. Trieschmann Senior Architectural Historian Maryland EASEMEN

Baltimore Co. VICINITY Dist. IX

TOWN VICINITY DIST. . .

ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE

1. STATE

COUNTY

PRESENT OWNER Greater Balt. Med.
PRESENT USE Center & St. Jos.

WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

INVENTORY BA - 272 211

2. NAME Sheppard-Pratt Hospitas
Building

DATE OR PERIOD 1862

STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Moses Sheppard left \$571,440 to be used for the construction of two hospital buildings, on 375 acres of land. The construction was interrupted by the Civil War and the buildings were not completed until 1891. In 1896 Enoch Pratt left an endowment of \$1,500,000 to the hospital. Recently some of the land was sold to the Greater Baltimore Medical Center and St. Joseph's Hospital.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered

Interior

Exterior



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
 INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

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